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"I tire of days in loveless labor past,
By beauty's smile unblest. Man was not made
For selfish joy or sorrow ; sad, o'ercast,
With hopes that fade, and joys that wither fast,
He droops, untended, in the lonely shade.
His paradise on earth, his heaven portrayed,
Is woman's unbought love ; all earth beside
Would dark and worthless prove, were this denied.
For ne'er ambition's spoils, nor heaps of gain
The longings of desire could sate, or hush
The heart's wild transports, throbbing to attain
True bliss ; but O ! when love's warm currents gush
From kindred hearts commingling, man again
Finds Eden's primal bliss, else sought in vain." — pp. 55, 56.

We cannot give any further extracts. The book goes on, and describes the feelings that spring from the domestic relations, and from the scenes of public life, in which the author was placed. A kind and gentle spirit, a poetical feeling, and an equal temper are here uninterruptedly displayed. Towards the close, a short series of portraits of illustrious statesmen are drawn, with singular fairness, impartiality, and pictorial skill. We have been so much pleased with these books of Mr. Plumer, that we hope he will have time and will to complete his original plan.

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5. — *Colonial Literature, Science, and Education, written with a view of improving the Literary, Educational, and Public Institutions of British North America.* By GEORGE R. YOUNG, Esq. Halifax, N. S. 1842. In 3 Vols. Vol. I. 12mo. pp. 364.

THIS work comes to our notice as a kind of literary curiosity, being the first volume of any pretensions, so far as we remember, which has come to us from the Northern Colonial press. It has further claims to regard as the production of a gentleman well known among his fellow colonists as a barrister of eminence, who, like some distinguished members of the profession in our own and the mother country, devotes his leisure hours to the great public cause of education and literature. Every profession has to bear its share of popular prejudice, and, perhaps, members of the bar are visited with something more than their proportion ; and it ought, at least, to be remembered in their favor, that, both in England and this country, the men who have taken the lead in advancing the interests of popular education have been of their number.

The volume before us, which is to be followed by two more, consists of twelve Lectures, part of which were in substance delivered by the author as President of the Institute at Halifax. The publication, when complete, is intended to "sketch a general outline, which the student may afterwards fill up according to natural taste and predilection, of different branches of letters, philosophy, and legislation; — and to aid in this useful labor by giving references to the best authors, where the subjects and questions are fully and elaborately treated." It is a design worthy of the author, and calculated to be of much use, we should judge, especially in the present condition of literature and education in the British Colonies. Indeed, we learn from the introduction, that Dr. Birkbeck, the late lamented President of the London Mechanics' Institution, expressed to the author his approval of the scheme, together with that of several influential friends of popular education in the mother country, of whom Lord Brougham was one. We are glad to observe, that the work is dedicated by permission to Lord Falkland, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, in order that official countenance may not be wanting to so good a cause.

It is gratifying to see a man in Mr. Young's position, instead of aiming at the reputation of an original writer, employing his talents upon a kind of work better adapted for practical usefulness among those for whom it is more particularly intended. He is content to give ample space to the speculations and conclusions of the leading minds in their several departments, and wherein they have spoken wisely, they are often allowed to speak for themselves. The proper course in a work like this, "of a strictly educational character," is to inform those who need to be informed of some of the main facts which have been best ascertained in science, and of the elementary truths which have been most approved and best illustrated in the history of human thought. The author has thus condensed much valuable matter into the first three Lectures, by way of sketching the successive stages of knowledge up to the time of modern civilization. In the two following, the subject of education is treated in a national point of view, and a good abstract is given of the more approved European systems of popular instruction.

In the three succeeding Lectures, upon the Condition and Prospects of Education in the Colonies, there is much valuable information that can with difficulty be obtained elsewhere. And those amongst us who take a lively interest in the general cause of popular instruction, irrespective of state and national boundary lines, will be under obligations to the author for enabling them to get some insight into this portion of the subject without the labor

that he must have taken in collecting and examining large numbers of reports and other official documents.

From the subject of Education, both in its local and general aspects, the author passes, in the three remaining Lectures, to a series of observations upon the character of some of those results by which, in the common course of things, education "is justified of her children." Excellence in intellectual production, particularly in oral eloquence, is treated somewhat at length, and the distinctive merits of the ancient and modern styles, with their causes, are compared and contrasted with much propriety. The author has introduced notices of the styles of some of the leading orators of England, as they came under his personal observation, and the reader is thus presented with sketches of several interesting scenes and passages, which he may not find elsewhere.

But we must bring our notice to a close. "During the last three years," says Mr. Young, "the manuscript has lain on my table, and been a source of mental relaxation and refreshment, when an hour of leisure could be spared from graver, and, perhaps, more profitable pursuits." In pursuits more profitable to themselves, perhaps, Mr. Young and many able men in the Colonies, of whom he speaks as cherishing the same tastes as his own, may indeed engage; in some of more immediate interest to the Provinces as a political community, the author has already been honorably distinguished; * but surely, to that public generally, no pursuit can be more truly profitable than the preparation of books, which, although "they do not profess the loftier intention of instructing the scholar, are written to beget a love of literature and education in the colonial mind, and to *popularize* letters and science in circles where they are not duly appreciated."

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6. — *A Gallop among American Scenery, or Sketches of American Scenes and Military Adventure*. By A. E. SILLIMAN. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 12mo. pp. 267.

THIS little volume seems to have been rapidly written, but it displays uncommon qualities of style, and powers of observation. The author has apparently travelled much, both in the United States and in Europe. His sketches of scenery are brilliantly drawn, and his stories and anecdotes well told. Unlike most books

* *Letters to Lord John Russell on Responsible Government and a Union of the Colonies of British North America*. By Geo. R. Young, Esq. Halifax, 1840. *Letters to Lord Stanley on the proposed Repeal of the Union between Nova Scotia and Cape Breton*. By Geo. R. Young, Esq. Halifax, 1842.